AMENDMENTS

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 15, line 15, please insert --(SEQ ID NO:1)-- after "$(GHHPH)_5G$".

On page 18, line 6, please insert --(SEQ ID NO:2)-- after "$(GHHPH)_2G$".

On page 18, line 6, please insert --(SEQ ID NO:1)-- after "$(GHHPH)_5G$".

Please cancel the "SEQUENCE LISTING", submitted by amendment on October 27, 1999, and insert therefor the accompanying paper copy of the Substitute Sequence Listing, page numbers 1 and 2, at the end of the application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

49. (Twice amended) A method of desorbing a macromolecular [an] ~~analyte~~ from a probe surface comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a probe that is removably insertable into a mass spectrometer, the probe having a surface for presenting the analyte to [an] a single energy source that emits energy capable of desorbing and ionizing the analyte from the probe for analyte detection, wherein at least the surface comprises a non-metallic-material, and [wherein] the analyte [is] on the [probe] surface; and

(b) exposing the analyte to energy from the single energy source, whereby the analyte is desorbed and ionized.

63. (Once amended) The method of claim 50 wherein the analyte comprises a protein or a peptide.

64. (Twice amended) A system for detecting a macromolecular [an] analyte comprising:

a removably insertable probe having a surface for presenting the analyte to [an] a single energy source that emits energy capable of desorbing and ionizing the analyte from the probe, wherein at least the surface comprises a non-metallic material, and [an] the analyte on the surface;

[an] a single energy source that directs energy to the probe surface for desorbing and ionizing the analyte; and

a detector in communication with the probe surface that detects the desorbed analyte.

86. (Twice amended) A method for detecting a macromolecular [an] analyte comprising the steps of:

a) providing a system comprising:

(1) a removably insertable probe having a surface for presenting the analyte to [an] a single energy source that emits energy capable of desorbing and ionizing the analyte from the probe, wherein at least the surface comprises a non-metallic material, and [an] the analyte on the surface;

(2) [an] a single energy source that directs energy to the probe surface for desorbing and ionizing the analyte; and

(3) a detector in communication with the probe surface that detects the desorbed and ionized analyte;

b) desorbing and ionizing at least a portion of the analyte from the surface by exposing the analyte to [the] energy from the single energy source; and

c) detecting the desorbed and ionized analyte with the detector.

101. (Once amended) The method of claim 87 wherein the analyte comprises a protein or a peptide.

107. (Once Amended) The method of claim 50, wherein the analyte is [a protein, a peptide or] a nucleic acid.

110. (Once Amended) The system of claim 65, wherein the analyte is a protein or [,] a peptide. [or a nucleic acid.]

114. (New) The method of claim 54, wherein the surface is coated with glass.

115. (New) The method of claim 54, wherein the surface is coated with ceramic.

116. (New) The method of claim 73, wherein the surface is coated with glass.

117. (New) The method of claim 73, wherein the surface is coated with ceramic.

118. (New) The method of claim 92, wherein the surface is coated with glass.

119. (New) The method of claim 92, wherein the surface is coated with ceramic.

120. (New) The method of claim 50, wherein the analyte is a carbohydrate.

121. (New) The system of claim 65, wherein the analyte is a nucleic acid.

122. (New) The system of claim 65, wherein the analyte is a carbohydrate.

123. (New) The method of claim 87, wherein the analyte is a nucleic acid.

124. (New) The method of claim 87, wherein the analyte is a carbohydrate.